[11th February 1955

" (c) Yes.

" (d) The petitions were disposed of in August 1952, in cousultation with the Collector of Tiruchirappalli. It was proposed to protect the village of Nagaratnampallam and the ayacut lands under the Odaikulam from submersion by the formation of a flood bank on the left side of the Vellar and by keeping the top of the sand bank at such a height as not to cause any submersion of ayacut respectively.

" (e) A portion of the new supply channel has been excavated and silt clearance to the existing supply channel to the Nor-Pavalakudi tank below its head sluice has been done. The sand bank and the flood bank are yet to be formed."

11-10 a.m. SRI V. BALAKRISHNAN :—" May I know how many acres will be irrigated by the construction of this anicut? "

THE HON. RAJA SRI SHANMUGA RAJESWARA SETHUPATHI :—" It is not an anicut, Sir. I said it is only a sandbank to prevent submersion."

Opening of Harijan welfare schools in the South Arcot district.

* 616 Q.—SRI M. KATTIMUTHU : Will the Hon. the Minister for Religious Endowments and Transport be pleased to state—

(a) whether there is any proposal with the Government for opening new Harijan welfare schools in South Arcot district in 1954–55; and

(b) if so, the places where these schools will be opened?

THE HON. SRI B. PARAMESWARAN :—" (a) No.

" (b) Does not arise."

Neyveli Lignite Project.

* 617 Q.—SRI A. RATNAM : Will the Hon. the Minister for Agriculture be pleased to state—

(a) the total cost of the machinery installed at Neyveli Lignite Project in the South Arcot district;

(b) the cost of machinery yet to be installed; and

(c) the reasons for not allowing man-power for excavating lignite ores?

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM :—" (a) The total cost of machinery at the project is about Rs. 61·39 lakhs.

" (b) This will depend on the shape of final project decided upon.

" (c) Manual labour is employed consistent with safety and economy. The machines are used to expedite excavation only to the extent it is beyond the capacity of manual labour. Actually over 400 men are employed on this work."